

Response to frequently asked questions about: SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits

Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits have been developed by the Commission on the Standardization of the Collection of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations, as authorized in C.G.S. Section 19a-112a. The Commission has developed kits for the collection of physical evidence from victims and suspects. A kit specifically designed for the collection of evidence when drug-facilitated sexual assault is indicated will also be available in Fall, 2003 (replacing the interim procedure issued by the Commission in 2002).

1. CT 100 – Victim Evidence Collection Kit

The CT 100 contains all basic materials necessary for the collection of evidence from victims of sexual assault. If additional packing or collection materials are necessary because of the nature of the assault, those materials can also be included in the kit after collection. The CT 100 kit should be forwarded by the police department to the Forensic Science Laboratory as soon as possible.

EXPIRED KITS – If the kit is opened past the expiration date on the box, the kit can still be used. The expiration date applies to the blood tubes only; merely replace the purple-cap blood collection tube with an unexpired tube.

2. CT 100S – Suspect Evidence Collection Kit

The CT 100S should be used to collect samples and/or standards from the suspect in a sexual assault. These kits are provided to the police departments free of charge and will be provided by the police to any health care professional obtaining samples. Please note that there are no materials for the collection of clothing or large items of evidence in this kit; if collecting evidence of this type, use CT 200 Clothing Collection Kit.

3. CT200 – Evidence Clothing Collection Kit

Because the suspect in a sexual assault may be identified some time after the incident, clothing may not be collected at the time of examination of the suspect. Therefore, the Commission has developed a separate kit for the collection of clothing from a suspect, when necessary, by

providing this alternative to a combined kit like the CT 100.

4. Collection of Evidence of Drug-facilitated Sexual Assault

It is important that the guidelines for the collection of blood and/or urine be followed, including the separate consent for collection of those samples to be tested for drugs. Note that according to the Commission's Protocols for the Collection of Evidence, the Department of Public Safety Toxicology/Controlled Substances Laboratory in Meriden shall conduct all testing of blood and/or urine in cases of suspected drug-facilitated sexual assault.

Questions concerning kits or evidence collection? Call Jane Codraro at 203.639.6400 or contact the Forensic Science Laboratory at jane.codraro@po.state.ct.us

Need to order more kits? Call the "hotline" at 860-258-5960.

